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COUNTRY East Germany

SECURITY IN  
REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Letzling Heath Training Area

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 18 September 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 27 August 1953, the wood camp southeast of Jaevenitz was occupied. Officers and troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia and, a few, black-bordered crimson epaulets were seen on the highway from the Jaevenitz railroad station to the south. An estimated 200 motor vehicles, mostly trucks, were closely lined up about 300 meters south of the railroad line. Numerous tents and several one-story temporary buildings were south of the vehicles, extending southward into the woods. Little activity was observed in the large training area south of the tent camp. Vehicular traffic was light; motor vehicles were identified. Several AT gun units were seen on the Letzlingen-Gardelegen road. Four 57-mm AT guns, truck and 6 x 76.2-mm field guns were observed. Additional well camouflaged vehicles and guns were seen in the woods. 50X1-HUM
2. On 23 August, Camp Born was occupied to capacity. About 200 trucks were seen in the vehicle parking lot west of Born. Sedan was seen entering the camp. 50X1-HUM
3. On 28 August, numerous trucks and tanks were seen in sheds and in the open in the northern portion of the camp south of Huetten. Two SU-100 guns were seen in Huetten. On 28 August, Truck entered the camp, coming from the direction of Haldensleben. The AAA emplacement 2 km south of Born was occupied; the guns were camouflaged. Intensive vehicular traffic in both directions was observed on the Born-Haldensleben highway. The following motor vehicle 50X1-HUM

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4. On 27 August, Camp Born was occupied to capacity by about 3,000 troops, [redacted] Between [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 16 and 27 August, no troops were observed practicing outside the training area, except for small groups of about 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, which engaged in infantry training at [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- the southern exit of the village of Born. [redacted] training was conducted exclusively within the restricted area. On 21 August, about 20 x 122-mm field howitzers and about 50 trucks were at the [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- parking lots in Jagen (forest section) No 155; and about 40 canvas-covered armored vehicles, including JSU guns [redacted] were just west of the barrier at the entrance to Camp Born, about 500 meters south of the southern exit of the village of Born. On 26 August, two BA-64 armored scout cars and a sidecar motorcycle passed through Born, coming from the camp. After a short exercise west of Born, they returned to the camp. Motor vehicles seen entering and leaving the camp [redacted]
5. On 27 August, Camp Huetten-Planken was occupied to capacity by 2,500 to 3,000 troops. About 50 amphibious vehicles under tarpaulins and about 60 trucks were seen at the edge of the woods east of the firing range. On 25 August, a large jeep [redacted] and a lieutenant colonel 50X1-HUM
- who, source believed, was the commanding officer of Camp Huetten, were seen at the laundry in Born, which did the washing for the camp. Motor vehicles seen en route to and from the camp [redacted]
6. At about 7 p.m. on 27 August, a shipment of about 12 flatcars and 3 to 4 boxcars was seen at the Haldensleben railroad station. Six trucks, [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- [redacted] and about 40 troops were seen on the loading ramp, ready for entraining. [redacted]
7. On 26 July, Camp Peckfitz was occupied. [redacted]
8. On 26 July, the camp southeast of Jaevenitz was occupied to capacity [redacted] infantry and tank units. Trucks [redacted]
- [redacted] were observed. Two guns and motor vehicle [redacted] were detained at the loading ramp of the Jaevenitz railroad station. 1 50X1-HUM
9. On 7 August, Vinzelberg residents stated that, since the night of 5 50X1-HUM
- August, Soviet units with trucks marched through Vinzelberg, proceeding toward east. At 9:30 p.m. on 7 August, [redacted] 40 caterpillar tractors with AT guns passing through Vinzelberg, coming from the area 50X1-HUM
- south of Katharinenberg and proceeding toward Stendal. [redacted] between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. on 8 August, trucks with troops and equipment kept passing through Vinzelberg, proceeding toward Stendal. At about 9:30 p.m. on 13 August, [redacted] 40 caterpillar tractors with AT guns, passing through Vinzelberg, coming from the direction of Hillersleben and proceeding toward Stendal. 3 50X1-HUM
10. At about 4:20 p.m. on 7 August, a shipment of 28 trucks, 8 AT guns, 3 half-track prime movers and 12 boxcarloads of troops passed through Jaevenitz, proceeding toward Gardelegen. At about 4:50 p.m., two guns were entrained at the Jaevenitz railroad station. [redacted] 4 50X1-HUM
11. On 17 August, the wood camp southeast of Jaevenitz was heavily occupied. Between 3 and 17 August, rocket launchers, trucks towing AT guns, and 50X1-HUM
- mortars were seen in the area of the camp. At about 5 p.m. on 17 August, a column of 10 trucks with ammunition [redacted] and another column of about 30 trucks carrying troops, 50X1-HUM

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uniformed women and equipment passed through Jaevenitz, proceeding toward the camp. The troops wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Five trucks [redacted] towed AT guns. Motor vehicles [redacted]

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[redacted] were seen en route to and from the camp.

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12. Between 7 and 17 August, firing of heavy weapons, mostly tanks, was daily heard from the Letzling Heath training area.

13. [redacted]

Comment. The camp southeast of Jaevenitz in the north section of Letzling Heath and Camps Born and Huetten in the south section appear to be occupied as previously. [redacted]

2. Comment. Units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div are carried in Camp Peckfitz.

3. Comment. [redacted]

[redacted] movements of units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, which were to conduct exercises in the Stendal area.

Comment. [redacted] one of the two trains with shipment record [redacted] which carried elements of the 304th Arty Brig from Burg to Gardelegen. [redacted]

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5. [redacted]

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